

# Information Release Coronavirus Pandemic

## Green Environmental Services Companies

3/20/20

Your waste company is in **full operation** to continue to provide collection and disposal of your waste, whether generated from your business, or your home.

We are taking every effort to **protect our employees**, their families, and the people in the communities we serve to stop the spread of this new Invisible Virus.

No one really pays much attention to the waste collection company until the trash doesn't disappear, a change is made in service, or the price goes up!

As the Solid Waste Association of North America ( [SWANA](#)) reminds our County Commissioners, City Mayors and other Customers that **solid waste collection, processing, and disposal is an essential public service and is exempted from local or state-wide quarantines** in response to the Coronavirus pandemic.

We expect significant changes in the volume and source of solid waste as more people work from home. **Residential volumes may double, causing route time changes and delays.**

The U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration has identified solid waste management as a worker group and employer who may have potential exposures to COVID-19. We are taking every precaution to make sure our people have the tools to minimize this exposure, but we need the help of residents and businesses to keep our people safe.

Experts are saying that **the virus can live on surfaces of certain items for hours, and possibly days.** Items include plastics, cardboards, metals, and clothing.

### Things to do to keep the waste collection workers:

- All waste should be **inside carts or containers**, any waste not inside containers should be bagged in heavy duty bags, and not weigh more than 25 pounds.
- Customers should **wash out their containers** with water and bleach, or any germ-killing agent weekly if possible until the virus is better known.

- **Please do not call the office if the truck is not there at the normal time.** We will do everything we can to maintain normal schedules, but we are already experiencing disruptions due to schools and daycare facilities being closed and children and grandchildren issues. If your neighbors are dumped, and not you, do call the office.
- Any **customers with symptoms of Coronavirus** should double bag their waste and tape lid closed so the worker can make double sure they handle the waste properly as if it was medical waste! (one piece of tape as a symbol)
- Please **respect the social distancing of the drivers and helpers,** and remain 6 feet or more from them while on the routes, if you have questions, do call the office.

We at Green Environmental understand what our role is as your waste hauler. But as a private company, funded by our customers, we strive to operate in a safe and professional manner every day in every community that we serve.

**Our #1 goal is Safety,** and this Invisible Virus is causing so many of our customers to make unprecedented changes that have never been experienced.

We have, and will continue to take steps necessary to keep our trucks operational by taking steps to ensure we have **People, Parts, Fuel, Funding, and Disposal** to keep your waste collected in a timely fashion. Please do your part, and we will do our part to protect the health and safety of all the communities we operate within on a daily basis. We will do our best to keep you updated to any potential changes as we learn more.

Thank you and God Bless,

John Hafner,

President GES/Ottawa Sanitation

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